

Claims

1. (original) A device (1) for controlling an internal combustion engine (500), characterized in that

a calculation means (410), before a start of the engine, recognizes a possible self-ignition operating state as a function of operating parameters and ascertains suitable control parameters for preventing this possible self-ignition operating state.

2. (original) A method for controlling an internal combustion engine, characterized in that before a start of the engine, as a function of operating parameters, a possible self- ignition operating state is recognized, and control parameters suitable for preventing this possible self- ignition operating state are ascertained.

3. (currently amended) The device or method as defined by claim 1 ~~or claim~~ 2, characterized in that as a function of the control parameters, at least a starter and/or an injection device is varied.

4. (currently amended) The device or method as defined by ~~at least one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that for ascertaining the control parameters, at least the position of a cylinder that on starting is the first to enter compression or begin an intake stroke and a variable that represents a combustion chamber temperature are taken into account as operating parameters.

5. (original) The device and method as defined by claim 4, characterized in that for ascertaining the control parameters, an intake air temperature is taken into account.

6. (currently amended) The device and method as defined by ~~at least one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that in a direct- injection internal combustion engine, the fuel injection is varied such that the fuel injection does not occur until once the cylinder entering into compression has passed its top dead center.

7. (currently amended) The device or method as defined by ~~at least one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the rpm of the starter is varied such that the combustion chamber temperature remains below a critical temperature threshold.

8. (currently amended) The device or method as defined by ~~at least one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the rpm of the starter is varied such that the combustion chamber pressure remains below a critical pressure threshold.

9. (currently amended) The device or method as defined by ~~at least one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that an injection quantity is increased such that the combustion chamber temperature remains below, or drops below, a critical temperature threshold.